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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A method and system translating instant messages between users who communicate in different languages is presented. Two or more users engaged

5   in an instant messaging session compose messages according to a source language or destination language. The source language corresponds to the preferred language of the user of the device that sends messages during the session, while the destination language corresponds to the preferred language of the user of a device that receives sent messages. During the session, devices

10   can exchange user profile information that specify one or more translation preferences, including the destination address(es), source address(es), and corresponding source and destination languages. A content translation module implemented as a computer-executable module (e.g., DLL, exe) utilizes the information contained in the user profile to translate messages from the source

15   language to the destination language. The translated message is then transmitted to the destination device. Because the message is translated prior to delivery, the destination device receives the message according to the destination language.

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